

## **ABSTRACT**

In one embodiment, a method for building a failover-enabled communications systems is provided. The method comprises clustering a plurality of Fibre Channel (FC) node devices to form a failover cluster. A primary link is established between a first FC node device in the failover cluster and a FC node device outside the failover cluster. In the event of failure of the primary link, a backup link is established between the FC node device outside the failover cluster and a second FC node device in the failover cluster.